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MIG-23s IN CUBA: CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION NEWSDOM 1-5 30EN

DEC 1 - 1978

-- As you will recall, in 1962 we discovered the deployment of some offensive systems in Cuba. These systems were subsequently withdrawn, pursuant to an understanding between the United States and Cuba that the Soviets would not base an offensive capability in Cuba. The systems removed at that time were nuclear missiles and the IL-28 Bomber.

-- We have monitored the 1962 agreement carefully over the years to ensure that the military capability based in Cuba would not pose an offensive threat to the U.S. In 1966, the Cuban Air Force acquired Soviet MIG-21.

-- In 1970, when the construction of a base for nuclear submarines in Cienfuegos was detected, we concluded that this did constitute an offensive threat, and we took action which resulted in the cessation of construction.

-- In May 1978, we observed that the Soviets provided some MIG-23 aircraft to Cuba.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY PRATT BYRD DATE 6/25/85
 CLASSIFIED SECRET
 RDS or REASON DATE OADR
 TO AUTH. 7/2/86 REASON(S) 1.3(2)(4)(5)(5)
 ENFORCE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐ 1.3(3)
 DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE ☐
 RELEASE DENIED ☒ IN PART 1.5(c)
 PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS B-1



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[] the Soviet Union assured us that it did not and does not undertake anything in Cuba that would contradict the agreement reached in 1962, and that the Soviet Union adheres and intends to adhere in the future in good faith to its part of the agreements on Cuba.

[] the Soviet Union gave us assurances that the MIG-23 aircraft now in Cuba "do not have the capability of being used as carriers of nuclear weapons."

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I we have determined that the situation does not constitute an offensive threat and therefore does not constitute a violation of the 1962 agreement.

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